

District Grid Title Is at Stake---Dempsey Will Face Willard Again

LOOKING 'EM OVER

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER

Navy Yard Clan Is Gathering

The clan of Washington's Navy Yard has heard the call to arms. It is gathering from work shop and office. It is filled with enthusiasm and confidence in "Josh" Lericione's great bunch of gridiron gladiators who will battle for the District independent football championship next Sunday at American League park against the powerful Rex A. C. You can't tell anybody down southeast that the Gunmakers won't wipe up the ground with the northeast outfit. Nothing like that. They know the Navy Yard will win. Yes, and they are backing their team to the limit.

Out northeast sentiment favors the Rex lads, who have been playing sterling football all season. It is impossible to find anybody in that part of the town who can give the Navy Yard a look-in for the honors next Sunday. They know that Rex will win. They are willing to put up hard-earned shekels to back their opinion, too. It is beginning to look a big day when Navy Yard tramples out upon the American League park gridiron to mingle with Rex.

Why don't you write something about the Riverdale A. C. New Jersey champions and the powerful Rex A. C. of Philadelphia, are sufficient evidence to anybody conversant with independent football in the East that the Gunmakers are not slouches by any means.

Over at Union League park the Rex A. C. has been battling to many victories. Really, but one invader made the Rex lads look cheap. That was the "S. M." team from Akron, Ohio. When the Quantico Leathernecks, unbeaten all year, came up to face Rex, the betting was all on the Marines. But the Rex team won, and won right handily, too.

Naturally, with two such powerful teams in Washington, the desire has been expressed that they meet and decide the gridiron title for the season. So they are going to do this thing next Sunday, and it behooves all who like football to be there, even if it rains cats and dogs. Mere cats and dogs mean nothing to the Gunmakers and their rivals.

REPLACES VIGILANTS. The Rex A. C. is a comparatively new organization in District football. It replaces Joe Oliver's famous Vigilants. For several seasons the Vigilants ran a neighborhood over all opponents, bringing them from great distances to hammer them into the dirt.

The Engineers gave the Vigilants a tough battle for a season or two. The Seamen Gunners waxed powerful and fought it out with Oliver's gang. But at the end it was the Vigilant A. C. that staged its great banquet when Oliver blossomed forth in a dress suit and made a speech two or eight times. We know. We were there. We witnessed Joe's marvelous forensic efforts. We cheered, too, and ordered another stein. It was not a crime then for a thirsty man to bury his head in a beaker.

But Joe Oliver went away from here. The Vigilants disappeared, though many of its old lineup are to be found on both the Navy Yard and the Rex lads today. This very fact should make Sunday's game rather more than interesting. And that's exactly what it should be, an interesting combat fought from whistle to whistle with all both teams have in the way of strength and skill.

McBRIDE IS A STAR. Bill McBride, the Navy Yard half-back, is one of the football stars of this section. We recall once, not so long ago, when Georgetown booked a game with Manassas University. We didn't know anything about the visitors until they arrived, but it didn't

take long to discover that their only player was a guy named McBride. He ran the ball all the time, did all the tackling on defense, and electrified the Georgetown host by running almost the length of the field for a touchdown.

Well, this same Bill McBride is still running wild on the gridiron and playing a great defensive game for the Gunners. He has been doing it all season and will probably contribute some of his stellar performances against Rex next Sunday.

But McBride is not the only star in the Navy Yard backfield. There are the incomparable line-smasher, "Josh" Lericione, and the marvelous speedster, Schofield, while Rudy Langer is a back of more than ordinary merit. As a quartet this bunch is excellent. Schofield's only weakness is his lack of pounds, for he can fairly fly, once he gets under way.

CAN GET HIS DISTANCE. If the Gunmakers ever get within the Rex 10-yard line, watch "Josh" Lericione. He is usually said to be the best line-breaking back ever connected with any football eleven in Washington, not excepting Georgetown University. He is a bit older now, but he's still the old "Josh" when it comes to getting his distance through the line. He gets it, that's all.

Dyer and Luscombe, the Gunmakers' ends, are capable performers, going down the field fast, able to take passes, tackling hard and all-around intelligent players.

Noonan and Deaking, the tackles, are rangy and strong, while Pass and Alec Lericione are heavy, immovable backs. Ray Towers is considered the best center in the District, bar none.

But while the Gunmakers shape up like a powerful eleven, this Rex team can't be sneezed at. Nothing like that. Indeed, many believe that Navy Yard will be unfortunate in tackling Rex just when the latter is coming at full speed.

PATTERSON IS IMPROVED. Patterson is said to be the most improved end in independent football here this season. He is fast down the field, a hard tackler and a fine defensive end. His mate, Gainey, is short and stocky, but usually capable for his size.

Litkus and Turner are powerful tackles. Indeed, the battle between the two sets of tackles should be worth watching for itself.

All the Rex guards, Stephens, Bill McDonald, McClure and Hoddins, are big fellows, well able to stand the hardest sort of going.

If Rooney Vrinetain plays center against Ray Towers, another great combat will be seen, for the Rex man is almost in Towers' class. J. McDonald, Vrinetain's understudy, lacks Towers' experience, but still he is a good man.

Litkus has a shade over Navy Yard in the line when it comes to weight, but as for ability both lines seem about on a par.

BYERS HAS FLEETNESS. In the Rex backfield will probably be found Carney at quarter, Joe Baldwin and George Byers at halfback, and Joe Gibel at full back. Byers has more speed than any of them on the field, not even excepting Schofield, if what we are told be true.

Carney is a fine open field runner and shows excellent judgment in driving his eleven. Baldwin is another good man in a broken field. Gibel is a heavy back of the line-breaking type.

While ground conditions are sure to prevent certain kinds of playing, nevertheless neither team should suffer more than its opponent. Each has plays for heavy going and others for a firm field. The passing game has been used all season with success by both teams.

Rex won last year's game by a field goal after a vicious stand-off battle. Finally, Harry Harris, now playing with the Akron club, professional champions since defeating Jim Thorpe's Canton Bulldogs, booted the heavy ball over the crossbar and Rex had won the title.

This year? Write your own ticket.

PICK OFFICIALS FOR GAME.

Representatives from both the Rex A. C. and the Navy Yard football teams have agreed upon the following officials for Sunday's big game at American League Park:

Referee—H. C. "Curly" Byrd, coach of the Maryland University eleven.

Umpire—Charles Guyon, Carlisle, coach at Eastern High.

Field judge—Lieutenant Jounnet, Springfield.

Linesman—George Green, Temple College, coach at Western High.

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FACULTY ADVISERS GIVE TITLE TO TECH ELEVEN

The 1920 football championship for the Washington High Schools was awarded to the McKinley Manual Training School by the faculty athletic advisers of the five schools at last night's meeting. The cup, emblematic of the title, goes with the titular award.

Tech won three games, tied one and lost none. Central won two, tied two and lost none. The advisers acted on the precedent established in 1915 when the same state of affairs existed in regard to Tech and Business.

The decision of the faculty athletic advisers is subject to revision by the high school principals. The award of the title precludes a possibility of a play-off in regard to Central and Tech, who ended the season with a percentage of 1.000.

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Indoor Sports



"V" CLUB INDORSES VIRGINIA'S STAND

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JESS WILLARD WILL HAVE A RETURN BOUT WITH DEMPSEY

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion of the world, will meet Jess Willard, from whom he won the championship, at Madison Square Garden in a fifteen-round bout to a decision on the evening of March 17, 1921.

For some reason or other this news has been suppressed by all hands concerned—Dempsey, his manager, Jack Kearns; Willard, and Promoter Tex Rickard. The writer, however, learned the details last night.

For the opportunity of winning the championship on July 4, 1919, from Willard, Dempsey received \$27,000 in Liberty Bonds. Willard, then champion, received \$100,000.

The terms for the return fight are not known beyond the fact that the financial arrangement will be reversed—that Dempsey now the champion, will receive more than Willard, the ex-champion, who is anxious to regain the heavyweight title.

JESS IS CONFIDENT. The writer knows that the boxer has already signed articles for a return fight. Willard's signed contract was received by Rickard three days ago, with one slight and amusing correction made on the copy which Rickard sent him.

Willard, despite the fact that Dempsey subjected him to a terrible beating, apparently is not convinced of his conqueror's prowess.

A variable giant in size and weight, Dempsey, a victory-made, tigerish-fighter, knocked his huge opponent down seven times in the first round of the Toledo contest and completely outclassed him.

WAS BEATEN TERRIBLY. The giant, pathetically helpless before Dempsey, who seemed a dwarf beside him when they were both on their feet, was beaten worse than any other champion ever was.

Willard, however, is not thoroughly convinced of Dempsey's superiority, for in the signed contract which he sent to Rickard the ex-champion wrote in an "if" clause, which will doubtless interest those who believe Dempsey is invincible. It will doubtless also interest Bill Brennan, whom Dempsey is to meet in the Garden on the fourteenth of the month.

The "if" clause is to the effect that Willard will meet Brennan if Brennan defeats Dempsey when they meet.

EPIPHANY FLOOR MEN WANT TO MEET OTHERS The Epiphany Comets and Epiphany Junior basketball teams are arranging their schedule for the coming season, and would like to hear from the various basketball teams in the District who desire games.

This may be attended to by addressing Mr. J. E. Haas, manager, 1317 G street northwest, Washington, D. C.

"Bo" Is a Colonel. DANVILLE, Ky., Dec. 1.—The Colonel now